

Portland Observer Visted By President Of Oregon's Largest University

BY PROF. MCKINLEY BURT

Dr. Myles Brand, the 14th president of the University of Oregon, called on us Monday, April 27, to deliver a reassuring message. Knowing that this community is certainly going to hold his institution accountable, Dr. Brand did not mince words in presenting the school's position in regard to minorities.



at recruiting and retaining both minority students and faculty... There shall be a special effort to secure the most important outcome of all, to see that they Graduate."

Now, the readers should understand that the visit to our offices was part of a broader mission that same day which brought the top three Oregon prexysts to Portland. The University News Bureau put, "Three University Presidents To Discuss Future Of Oregon Higher Education with Business Leaders, Public In Portland Area..."

Introduced at the greenwood Inn, Beaverton, were University of Oregon (UO) President Myles Brand, Oregon State University (OSU) President John Byrne and Portland State University (PSU) President Judith Ramaley. The purpose of this most extra ordinary conclave was to "bring together some of the Portland area's most prominent business leaders and the public to discuss the growing crisis in state higher education funding brought on by enactment of Ballot Measure 5, and the implications of this crisis for Oregon's overall economic future."

We gathered from the tenor of President Brand's overtures to our staff that he was quite aware this situation could only increase the apprehensions and fears of the minority community in respect to access to higher education. In addition to the assurances cited earlier, he stated a firm conviction that there had been "too much politics" in the efforts to secure effective solutions to a problem approaching diestrous dimensions.

This community agrees with him that there must be a "bipartisan solution". All may be assured that we shall followup on every aspect of a situation that threatens "the availability of affordable, quality higher education."

Seeming to anticipate our concerns, he addressed a number of issues that for years have been a flash point in the controversies and negotiations with Oregon's institutions of higher learning. De. Brands' statements in reference to both remedial and forward-looking programs and attitudes toward students of color were forthright and to the immediate point. He seemed to understand that we have heard all of this before.

There were several particular and specific statements of intent

"The related programs we have in place will not only continue but shall be enhanced... The school will work hard

Should You Refinance Your Home?

HOW TO FINANCE A HOME IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST



The Complete Guide for Financing and Refinancing in Oregon and Washington State

H.L. KIBBEY

Host of KXII Radio's HOME CALLS

Refinances have been the hot topic of conversation this year in real estate circles. According to talk show host, Heather Kibbey, author of *How to Finance a Home in the Pacific Northwest* (1991, Panoply Press, Inc., \$15.95), many homeowners are concerned that they've waited too long to make application to refinance their existing home mortgage loan. "Now that interest rates have increased slightly, and many lenders are refusing to take refinance applications, have I missed the boat on a refinance?" listeners ask frequently.

The answer to that is "No-- unless you absolutely need a rock-bottom interest rate to justify the refinance on a purely financial basis." For many homeowners, a refinance, even at today's rates, still makes sense. But how can you determine whether it's a wise move?

The rule of thumb for evaluating the pros and cons of refinance has generally been this: if today's interest

rate on a loan similar to yours is at least 2% less than what you're paying now, a refi is worth considering. But there are exceptions to that rule. For example, even if the difference between the two rates is acceptable, if you're planning to be in the home only a short time, you'd be unlikely to recoup the high loan costs involved in a refinance. It might be more profitable for you to hang on to your existing loan.

On the other hand, it often makes sense to refinance your loan, even though the difference between your old and new rates is less than 2%. This is true if you're planning to live in your home for many more years, or if you now have a loan with less-than-perfect features, such as an adjustable-rate or a balloon payment that requires your loan to be paid off early. Then,

too, if you want cash for a hefty chunk of the equity you've built up in your home, a refinance even with a narrow interest spread might be profitable. A loan officer can help you evaluate both the costs and the benefits to see if a refi is right for you.



Heather Kibbey, author of the new "How to Finance a Home in the Pacific Northwest"

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Statewide Fair Housing Conference Held in Portland

The eighth annual Oregon Fair Housing Conference was held in Portland on Thursday, April 30, at the Portland Airport Ramada Inn. The conference, which ran from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., drew more than 350 participants from Oregon and southern Washington. Representatives from local banks, landlords, real estate companies, tenants, government agencies, and nonprofit and social service groups were expected to attend.

The event's keynote speaker was Gordon Joyner, a Georgia attorney and nationally recognized fair housing expert. Former Director of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Enforcement and currently a fair housing litigator, Joyner is widely acclaimed for winning sizeable monetary awards and landmark cases involving racial discrimination in housing. Joyner, an elected member of the Fulton County, Georgia Board of Commissioners, delivered his keynote address at 9 a.m. In addition he

would take part in a mock fair housing trial with Judge Michael Marcus, Multnomah County District Court that afternoon.

The conference featured panel discussions and workshops conducted by experts from government, the housing industry and nonprofit organizations. A few of the workshop topics included issues involving the Community Reinvestment Act; local fair housing ordinances; fair housing siting and zoning issues; housing accessibility and the Americans with Disabilities Act; tenant organizing and non-discriminatory advertising.

Sponsors of the conference included the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the Portland Community Housing Resource Board, Multnomah County, the City of Portland, Multi-Family Housing Council of Oregon, Security Pacific Bank, Bank of America, Oregon Association of Realtors, and the Fair Housing Council of Oregon.

Bankers Group Works With King Students

Oregonian, January 16, 1992. The Oregon Association of Urban Bankers has launched a program involving a fifth-grade class at King Elementary School this year.

The goal is to reach youngsters who may be at risk of having future problems and introduce them to minority professionals who have become leaders in their respective fields, according to Stanley Sykes, a branch service officer with First Interstate Bank of Oregon and a member of the OAU.

"We want to expose them to these leaders and professionals who have made it through their own hard work and hope the youngsters will see them as possible role models," Sykes explained.

Once a month, Sykes arranges to have a guest speaker talk to students about his or her professional and the training or education it took to reach that position. They also discuss a range of real life issues and allow for a question and answer time.

Sykes discussed banking with the children and started them on a savings program which will result in double earnings for them. "Whatever they save between now and the end of the year we will double for them," he said.

Other speakers have included Keith Jackson, an officer with the U. S. National Bank of Oregon, and Rhonda Massey, an accountant with Deloitte and Touche.

Several field trips also are planned in which the students will visit the east Portland branch of First Interstate and the Multnomah County District Court.

PDC
PORTLAND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Commission Meeting

Date: May 13, 1992
Place: Portland Building
1120 SW Fifth Ave., 11th Fl.
Portland, OR
Time: 9:30 a.m.

Commission meetings are open to the public. A complete agenda is available at PDC. Call 823-3200.

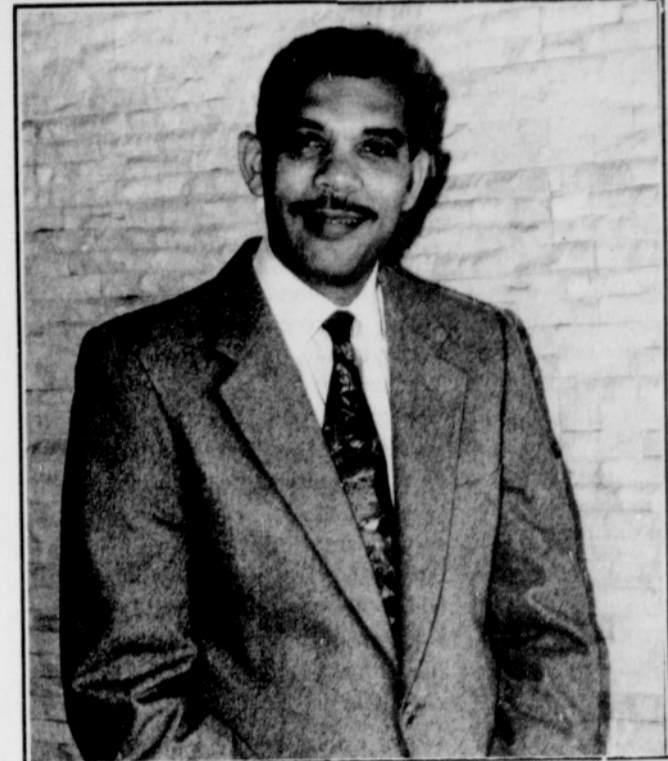
PDC is the City of Portland's urban renewal, housing and economic development agency.

McFadden Named as New President/CEO for Volunteers of America Oregon

The Board of Directors of Volunteers of America Oregon, Inc. have chosen Gerald McFadden as the new President/Chief Executive Officer. McFadden comes to Portland from Volunteers of America Los Angeles where he served as the Vice President of Programs and Marketing. As Presi-

said McFadden.

Tom Kelly, Chairman of the Board, spearheaded the search process. "Gerald McFadden was chosen because of his leadership, extensive educational background, and his experience with programs," said Kelly, who added that he was impressed with McFadden's "abilities



ties to apply sound business concepts, his emphasis on quality and services, and his management ethic of involving employees and clients in business decisions."

McFadden holds Masters degrees in Business Administration and Urban Planning. He has worked with VOA of Los Angeles since 1982. Previously, he was the Director of Rehabilitation and Treatment

Services for the People Coordinated Services of Southern California.

Volunteers of America is a nationwide social service organization with branches in over 200 communities. Volunteers of America Oregon, Inc. serves homeless women with children, a senior center, senior health clinic, adult day care program, residential facilities for adult felons, a shelter for homeless adolescent girls, and a Christmas Assistance Program.

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